STATE REPRESENTATIVE 6th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT KEVIN PARKER ASSISTANT MINORITY FLOOR LEADER

## State of Washington House of Representatives



WAYS & MEANS
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FINANCIAL SERVICES

6/20/11

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

As a T-Mobile customer, a small business owner and a state legislator representing the people of 6<sup>th</sup> Legislative District in Spokane, Washington, I can see the benefits of the AT&T/T-Mobile merger from multiple perspectives. I write to you today to express that support and to urge your approval of the merger.

By combining the networks of AT&T and T-Mobile, customers of both companies will benefit from a more robust, more efficient and farther reaching network. Unlike some other recent or possible mergers between cellular companies, AT&T and T-Mobile have compatible networks using similar technology. As a result, the consumer will experience the advantages of a combined network – improved call quality, broader service area, fewer dropped calls, better data speeds – relatively quickly following the merger.

Technology has, in many ways, changed the nature of small business in America. Mobile telecommunications infrastructure and devices have created new economic opportunities – changing where businesses can locate and where employees can live and work; allowing businesses to offer new services and deliver those services in a more efficient way; and expanding business' reach to new customers. The investment that AT&T is making is a direct benefit to the small businesses of America and is an essential component to fueling America's entrepreneurship and maintaining our nation's competitiveness.

This merger has a significant impact on the level of coverage and deployment 4G LTE mobile broadband in northeastern Washington State where my Spokane district is located. I urge your support for the merger.

Best,

Kevin Parker

State Representative

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6<sup>th</sup> Legislative District